

NBC

ADVERTISER

PROGRAM TITLE

CHICAGO OUTLET

(5:45^{THUR}:00 P.M. CST)

SUSTAINING

LI'L ABNER

RED

WRITER

OK

) DATE DECEMBER 2, 1940 (MONDAY DAY)

PRODUCTION

ANNOUNCER

ENGINEER:

LI'L ABNER

REMARKS

HUMPTY GORDON

RICKETTS

SCARLET O'FEVER

BOSS MIKE SLYNE

TREMBLY WHITELIP

SOUND:

DISTANT CHURCH BELL

DOOR FLUNG OPEN - CLOSED

RATTLING NEWSPAPER

TOWN BELL TOLLS TWELVE * TRAFFICE NOISES

VOICES

PIGEONS COOING

PHONE BUBZER * RECEIVER LIFTED * HUNG UP

MAN WALKING DOWN HALL * FOOTSTEPS APPROACHING

THREE MUFFLED SHOTS IN RAPDI SUCCESSION

SPECIAL EFFECTS:

ECHO CHAMBER

1. ANNOUNCER: The NATIONAL BROADCASTING COMPANY, giving sound to Al Capp's graphic comic strip, LI'L ABNER, presents chapter two-hundred and fifty-nine - titled, " _____."
- 2.
- 3.
4. BIZ: DISTANT CHURCH BELL.
5. - ABNER, MAMMY, HUMPTY, SCARLET LAUGHING SOCIABLY)
6. SCARLET: (ABRUPTLY) The bell! what does it mean?
7. MAMMY: Heh-heh-heh - don't git yo'sef excited 'bout it, Miss O'Fever, it's merely th' kerfew.
- 8.
9. ABNER: Meanin' it's nine o'clock of th' evenin' - an time fo' chillun to be home in thar beds.
- 10.
11. HUMPTY: Charmin' t'ought. Charmin' indeed.
12. SCARLET: Nine o'clock - then we must hurry. I wanted you to cover more than usual this evening, Mr. Yokum.
- 13.
14. MAMMY: Huh? How's that agin?
15. SCARLET: Well - you see, there remain only two weeks - (less than two weeks, in fact) to finish the story of Mr. Yokum's life
- 16.
17. I know that considerabel has happened in this past year -
18. more than I would have suspected - but we must be brought
19. up to the moment by Friday the thirteenth.
20. ABNER: (GULP) F-friday th' th- th- thirteenth?
21. MAMMY: Crack mah bones - whut do that day mean to Li'l Abner?
22. SCARLET: Why - don't you KNOW? That's Mr. Yokum's inauguration day.
23. ABNER: F-f-friday th' TH*TH-THIRTEENTH. (HIS VOICE BREAKS)
24. MUSIC: THEME - FADE AT CUE TO -
- 25.

1. ANNOUNCER: In these days before he takes over the helm of his state
2. as governor Li'l Abner Yokum of Dogpatch is telling his
3. life story to readers of the Scorpion City Bugle, thru it's comely
4. feature writer, Scarlet O'Fever. This morning's edition of the Bugle
5. tells the beginning of a vivid chapter in the young statesman's colorful
6. life. It tells how, in a whirlwind fifteen minutes of instruction,
7. Marryin' Sam made Dogpatch's favorite son a gen-u-wine bony-fide lawyer.
8. The adventure, stemming from that memorable hour, is about to be told
9. as we rejoic'h the Yokums and their friends before the Yokum hearthatone..
10. (AD LIB)

11. SCARLET: Yes- I knew you went immediately to Scorpion City, Mr.
12. Yokum. I wasn't with the Bugle at that time - but stories
13. of what you did to that city were still being told when I
14. arrived.

15. ABNER: (MODESTLY) Aw - I didn't do much.

16. HUMPTY: Heh-heh - didn't do MUCH. A very drastic hunk of modesty,
17. me bucko - and if youse persist in sellin' yerself short I
18. poissonally will take over th' story.

19. SCARLET: Oh @ was it in Scorpion City that you met Mr. Yokum, Mr.
20. Gordon?

21. HUMPTY: It wuz irdeed. I woud like the pleasure of tellin' what th'
22. picture wuz in Scorpion City before th' kid arrived. Errr
23. - I am chagrined more dan somewhat to admist me low
24. character before I met th' kid.

25. SCARLET: Oh? You were - err- following criminal pursuits?

1. HUMPTY: Th' very lowest. I - I wuz in politics - and it ain't no
2. secret dat statesmanship wuz very smelly indeed at th' time.
3. SCARLET: I've heard as much.
4. HUMPTY: I wuz, at th' time, th' career man in Boss Mike Slynk's
5. diplomatic staff ... err - in other words - I toted th'
6. rod to protect Boss Slynk from pigeons and th' like.
7. Heh -heh - at th' time - th' day before I met th' kid here -
8. Mike wuz havin' trouble wit his prosecutin' attorney.
9. (FADING) Th' business Mike had wit Trembly Whitelip (he
10. wuz th' prosecutin' attorney) wuz so poissonal dat I poissonally
11. wuz not present - but as Mike told me later -
12. BIZ: DOOR FLUNG OPEN
13. (AWAY)
14. TREM: B-b-boss Slynk!
15. SLYNKE: (LAUGHING) Just dropped in, Whitey - Just dropped in. Don't
16. get up for me.
17. TREM: H-h-have a chair, Boss - have a c-cigar - have a drink of
18. water - have - have a chair.
19. SLYNK: (STILL LAUGHING) Y've got th' jitters, Whitey - take it
20. easy -'s short life. And Mike's still the handle.
21. TREM: Did you see all those people in my cutter office?
22. SLYNKE: Nice crowd - nice crowd - Gave 'em all smokes. Election
23. comin' on, Whitey -
24. TREM: They don't need to smoke - they're burning already.
25. SLYNKE: (BIG LAUGH) That's good, Whitey - good joke.

1. TREM: It's no joke. Those men are reporters - that is, those of
2. them who are not members of the citizen's committee.

3. SLYNKE: (L) Citizen's Committee - there another joke, Whitey. You
4. oughta be on the radio!

5. TREM: It's no joke to me. Look, Mike, I've got to do something.
6. I've got to.

7. SLYNKE: (STOPS LAUGHING SUDDENLY) Then do it, Whitey - but be careful
8. - don't step on the toes of any of my boys.

9. TREM: None of your boys! I couldn't put my finger on the police
10. blotter without smearing the name of one of your boys.

11. SLYNKE: I like my boys, Whitey. My boys don't get hurt by nothin'
12. - remember that. ... You're one of my boys, Whitey.

13. TREM: But look, Mike - I'm supposed to be a prosecutor - but I
14. can't prosecute anybody because all the felons are members
15. of the club.

16. SLYNKE: (L) Yep - members of the club - and all jolly good felons.
17. (KNOCKS HIMSELF OUT LAUGHING)

18. TREM: Yeah - that's funny, Mike, but I'd like to see you make
19. those people in my waiting room laugh.

20. SLYNKE: Ahhhhhh - kick! - nothing t' 'em, Whitey! Tell 'em what
21. good citizens they are, stick a stogie in their missers
22. and send 'em home.

23. TREM: Look, Mike - I've got to prosecute just one of the boys -
24. you know - a sop to public opinion.

25. SLYNKE: No.

TREM: Look - have you seen this -

BIZ: RATTLING NEWSPAPER

- editorial in the Buzle.

1. SLYNKE: I never took th' trouble t' learn to' read, Whitey -
2. just so I c'd have th' pleasure of not readin' editorials.
3. TREM: They're demanding action. They want crime cleaned-up.
4. Today five of your boys on the corner of Lincoln and Douglas
5. at high noon shot the traffice lights out.
6. SLYNKE: They did! Nice shootin'.
7. TREM: The Citizens' committee wants some convictions.
8. SLYNKE: Give 'em some - but don't step on the toes of any of my boys.
9. TREM: Don't step on - (BREAKS) Look, Mike - the list of tomorrow's
10. cases. Only one of those men are not members of your club.
11. SLYNKE: (EAGERLY) Which one? Huh? Which one?
12. TREM: This one - Oliver Birdsong, 2548 Dreadnaught Road.
13. SLYNKE: Make an example of him! Make him feel th' teeth of th' law.
14. Show th' good people of Scorpion City that Mike Slynke is
15. makin' it safe for the -
16. TREM: (INTERRUPTING) Mike! Mike! The man was arrested for playing
17. a concertina on a one-way street.
18. SLYNKE: Fine - fine - make an example of him.
19. TREM: Make an' - (BREAK) He broke section 5-a of an 1878 Blue law
20. and you want me ...
21. SLYNKE: Give him the limit. Charge him with treason. How do
22. Y'know he wasn't playin' a communist tuen? Huh? Was he
23. wearin' a red flannel undershirt?
24. TREM: No good, Mike. They want a big clean-up.
25. SLYNKE: Then give 'em one. Crack down on kids roller-skatin' on
sidewalks. They ain't got votes... Y'hear me?

1. TREM: I hear.
2. SLYNKE: Trouble with you, Whitey - you're too smart - too sensitive.
3. (THOUGHTFULLY - FADING) sometimes I think we oughta have a
4. D.A. which ain't so smart.
5. (OUT)
6. (FADING IN)
7. HUMPTY: - and when Mike Slynke had them kind of misgivin's about
8. a prosecutin' attoiney he wuz apt to be short wit one and
9. all. Err - dat gives youse a very brief picture of th' layout
10. th' kid here got hisself into. Carry on, me bully boy.
11. ABNER: Huh? Oh - shore. ... Wal - Mr. Ricketts an' me got to
12. Scorpion City -
13. SCARLET: Ricketts? He was with you?
14. ABNER: Un-huh. He sed he never felt right if'n he couldn't be
15. somebuddy's gennulman's gennulman - so he decided he'd be
16. mine even if'n I didn't have no money to pay him.... Wal -
17. nacherly when we got to Scorpion City we started to gradually
18. starve, on account of not havin' any money. (FADING) Him an'
19. me wuz settin' in th' park they has thar in Scorpion City
20. tryin' to decide whar I could git work as a lawyer - an'
21. other things - mainly food, on account we wuz starvin' -
22. (OUT)
23. (FADING IN)
24. BUZ: TOWN BELL TOLLS TWELVE - LIGHT TRAFFIC NOISES - VOICES
PIGEONS COOING - ALL BEHIND
- 25.

1. RICK: Shoo, shoo, go away, you - you DOVES! We haven't anything
2. to feed you. Go away.

3. ABNER: We're hawngry, too, birds - on account we hasn't et since't
4. yesterd'y.... Purty, ain't they, Mister Ricketts?

5. RICK: My sould is impervious to beauty when my stomach is empty.

6. ABNER: Wonder whut they likes t'eat.

7. RICK: (RAPTUROUSLY) Oh, a big, round, thick steak, medium well -
8. done with a (BREAK) Oh, oh - you mean what do the birds
9. like to eat. I don't kn- (BREAK) Birds eat - eat birds.
10. By St. George and Merry England, sir - you've hit on it!

11. ABNER: I has?

12. RICK: Indeed - oh, indubitably, sir. Pigeons are just grown-up
13. squabs. Oh, dear, dear, dear, dear - I wonder if the town
14. would object too strenously if we built a small fire here
15. in this little park.

16. ABNER: Are yo' cold?

17. RICK: Cold? Gracious no! I'm just starved.

18. ABNER: Uh-huh. Me, too. I thought I would git a job lawyerin'
19. right away when I got in th' City, mebby I will after lunch
20. time.

21. RICK: Oh, dear, dear, dear - why did I allow myself to conjure up
22. a picture of a sizzling, juicy, big, thick, steak, medium
23. well - (BREAK) Gad - there I go doing it again!

24. ABNER: I'm sorta sorry now that I left mah Mammy an' Pappy t'
25. come h'yar t' th' city t' have a career bein' a lawyer.

1. RICK: All is not nectar and skittles that I admit, sir. We are faced with the pressing need for sustenance.
- 2.
3. ABNER: Also I would like t' eat.
4. RICK: Frankly, sir, I am a bit dubious about your chance to gain a livelihood thru the practice of law.
- 5.
6. ABNER: I understands that some gennulmen make uncommon good money bein' a lawyer.
- 7.
8. RICK: Without doubt, sir - but do you think that - err - that
20 you're qualified?
- 9.
10. ABNER: Yo' is askin' if I is a good lawyer?
11. RICK: Errr - substantially that, yes.
12. ABNER: 'course I am. Marryin' Sam sed - (Yo' know Marryin' Sam
13. don't yo'?)
14. RICK: (GROANS) Ohhhhh, yes - don't yo' remember, sir?
15. ABNER: (GRINNING) Oh, yassir. Wal, Marryin' Sam who is a lawyer,
16. give me a' examination - an' then sed I passed th' bar.
17. (DOUBTFULLY) I don't know 'zactly whut that means - but he
18. give'd me a cer-tiffy-cate which siz on it I'm a genuine
19. lawyer.
20. RICK: (NOT AT ALL ENTHUSED) Very reassuring, indeed.
21. ABNER: An' I has a law book.
22. RICK: Ummmm -
23. ABNER: If'n yo' is worried 'bout whar we is gonna find food t'
24. eat - then don't.
25. RICK: Umm - I'm usually an eager disciple of the laissez-faire
school of thought - but now -

1.

2. ABNER: Mebby th' reason I haasn't got no lawyerin' work is because
3. I has jest walked up t' people on th' street an' ast em
4. if'n they wanted a lawyer. (KNITTED BROWS) They must be a
5. better way.

6. RICK: No doubtt

7. ABNER: If'n I know'd whar th' place wuz that they has trials h'yar
8. mebby -

9. RICK: Right across the street.

10. ABNER: Huh?

11. RICK: We're directly across from the City Hall, sir. That might
12. be an ideal place to contact miscreants.

13. ABNER: (ENTHUSIASTICALLY) Yassir - that's a good idea. (FADING)
14. Less go over thar right now ...

15. (OUT)

16. (FADING IN)

17. ABNER: - so him an' me started out to th' City Hall. An' when we
18. got there -

19. HUMPTY: (INTERRUPTING) Not so fast, Abner, me bully boy. To keep
20. everything in poifect order I must tell what was goin' on
21. at that very minute in th' city hall. (FADING) I can tell
22. it foist hand because I was present wit Mike Slynke in me
23. capacity as his career diplomat.

24. (FADING IN)

25. BIZ: PHONE BUZZER - RECEIVER LIFTED

1. TREM: District Attorney Whitelip speaking ... Who? Yes, Boss
2. SLYNKE: Slynke and Mr. Gordon are in my office.
3. SLYNKE: Somebody fo r me?
4. TREM: A Mister Slug McStout.
5. SLYNKE: Don't know him. You take it for me, Humpty.
6. HUMPTY: Sure, Mike.
7. TREM: Here -
8. HUMPTY: Hello ... Hello.
9. TREM: You talk into the other end.
10. HUMPTY: Aw, soitenly - now ain't dat disgustin' of me. I never
11. could figger out dese one-hand jobs but I never - (BREAK)
12. Hello ... Naw - dis is Humpty Gordon, Mike Slynke's
13. so-sees-al Seckerterry ... Don't give me dat Pal stuff. I don't
14. kn- (BREAK) Who? (THEN CORIDALLY) Slug McStout! 'Course I
15. remember youse! ... Goin' straight now, huh? Dat's gracious
16. t' hear? ... Huh? Jest a sec, Slug. (TO MIKE) Old Pal of
17. mine, Mike.
18. SLYNKE: Umm.
19. HUMPTY: Goin' straight now. Wants t' git a license t' sell gold
20. bricks in th' park.
21. SLYNKE: No - too near election.
22. HUMPTY: (QUICKLY) No, Slug -- too near election... 'At a fack?
23. Mike - Slug sez dat th' lead in th' bricks alone is worth
24. fifty cents.
25. SLYNKE: Well, that's different.
- HUMPTY: Dat's differnt, Slug.

1. SLYNKE: The City's cut is forty percent.
2. HUMPTY: Th' City's cut is fifty percent - (ASIDE TO TREM) Ten percent for me, D.A...Huh? Not at all, Slug. Always happy t' oblige old buddies... Be seein' you.
- 3.
- 4.
5. BIZ: HANGS UP PHONE
6. TREM: That's what I mean. And it happens right under my nose -
- 7.
8. and I'm the district Attorney, sworn to enforce the laws of Scorpion City.
9. HUMPTY: Maybe yer nose sticks out so far dat things can't help
10. happ'nin' under it - jevver think of dat? huh? How about
11. it, Mike - shall I flatten if fer him? No trouble at all.
12. SLYNKE: Not now, Humpty. I want to shoot this too-bright D.A. of
13. ours a few questions first.
14. TREM: Don't you threaten me, Mike. I'll call the governor and
15. have him declare martial law.
16. SLYNKE: I wouldn't try it if I wuz you - which I'm glad I ain't.
17. HUMPTY: You touch dat phone an' I'll let air int' youse.
18. TREM: N-n-now look, Mike - I was only doing my duty. I had to
19. arrest Zanzibar Gerlick. He stuck up a bank messenger
20. in broad daylight. Five people who saw tackled him and
21. brought him in.
22. SLYNKE: Humpty - remind me to fix up an alibi for Zanzie.
23. HUMPTY: Sure t'ing, Mike.
24. TREM: But these people saw him - captured him with the gun and the
25. loot in his hands.

1. HUMPTY: Dat's funny - becuz he wuz wit me - at de opery.

2. TREM: It won't go, Mike. These people were -

3. SLYNKE: Zanzi's one of the boys. You know that -

4. TREM: Yes, but -

5. SLYNKE: I told you that you can prosecute all you want - but leave

6. the boys alone.

7. TREM: But how can I -

8. SLYNKE: I told you yesterday that you were too smart, didn't I?

9. TREM: Look, Mike - I was only doing -

10. SLYNKE: I picked you for D.A. because I thought you were the

11. dumbest mouthpiece in town. Well, I'm gonna find

12. one dumber.

13. HUMPTY: It ain't possible, boss.

14. TREM: I'll call the governor.

15. SLYNKE: There must be some lawyer dumber than him, Humpty.

16. I'm gonna have a dumber D.A. if I have t' import one from

17. the state home for the feeble-minded.

18. TREM: Now, look here, Mike ...

19. SLYNKE: Shut up. I'm goin' t' take care of you - right now.

20. Humpty - go out and get me some stogies. I - I'll handle

21. this myself.

22. HUMPTY: (GRINNING) Sure t'ing, Mike. (WITH SUBTLE MEANING)

23. Good bye, Whitey.

24. TREM: (GOING AWAY) Mike - we've always been friends. Can't we

25. talk this thing over?

BIZ: DOOR OPENED

1. SLYNKE: (AWAY) I have my own way of talking, Whitey - and -
2. BIZ: DOOR CLOSED - WALKING DOWN TILED HALL - ECHO - FOOTSTEPS
3. APPROACHING
4. ABNER: (COMING IN) Hydee, Mister -
5. HUMPTY: I don't t'ink I - (STARTS TO LAUGH - BUILDS)
6. RICK: Oh, I say, sir - what is so funny to the gentleman?
7. HUMPTY: (STRANGLING LAUGH) A Mickey Finn wit legs on it!
8. (GIVES WAY TO LAUGHTER AGAIN)
9. ABNER: (PUZZLED LAUGH)
10. HUMPTY: Yer de funniest lockin' drip I has saw in years.
11. ABNER: (FORCED LAUGH) Is I?
12. RICK: (LAUGHING) Oh, I say - you're rather funny looking, too,
13. If I may say so.
14. (HUMPTY LAUGH STOPS ABRUPTLY - RICKETT'S DWINDLES)
15. HUMPTY: If yer passin's aspergions on me broken schnoz I'll -
16. RICK: Sorry, sir - no offence intended. I - err - we - that is,
17. he is a lawyer looking for work.
18. HUMPTY: I don't need - (BREAK) Youse means him? Dis - guy?
19. ABNER: Yassir - I'm a lawyer.
20. HUMPTY: Me boy, me boy - put it dere!
21. ABNER: Yo' means mah certiffycate? My lawyer's certiffycate.
22. HUMPTY: No, I means yer hand. Put it dere.
23. ABNER: (CHUCKLES) Oh, yo' wishes t' shake han's. Thass real friendly of yo'.
24. 25. HUMPTY: I don't know yer name, Buddy - but youse has a job.

1. HU
2. ABNER: (WIDE-EYED) A lawyerin' job?
3. HUMPTY: Th' best lawyerin' set-up in dis burg.
4. RICK: Oh, jolly - jolly, sir. We are a success
5. ABNER: When does I starts, Miater?
6. HUMPTY: Well - dat's a questions I ain't sure of the answer of. It
7. might be -
8. BIZ: THREE SHOTS IN RAPID SUCCESSION - MUFFLED SLIGHTLY
9. ABNER: Wh-what wuz that?
10. HUMPTY: (GRINNING) Dat? Heh-hsh-heh Dat was it. Yer job starts
11. right now.
12. MUSIC: THEME: REGISTER AND FADE TO
13. ANNOUNCER: Chapter two-hundred and sixty of LI'L ABNER - titled,
14. _____, " will come to you tomorrow
15. evening at this same time.
16. LI'L ABNER is presented from our Chicago Studios -
17. THIS IS THE NATIONAL BROADCASTING COMPANY
- 18.
19. (CHIMES)
- 20.
- 21.
- 22.
- 23.
- 24.
25. vf:12/2/40:1:36